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*Response  
Bates  
3/11*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

ANDERSON

Application No. : 09/886,234

Filed: 06/21/01

For: BREAKAWAY LINKS FOR  
UNDERWATER GEAR

Group Art Unit: 3643

Examiner: ROWAN, K.

**RECEIVED**

FEB 27 2003

**GROUP 3600**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on February 18, 2003, with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

*Dennis H. Rainear*  
Dennis H. Rainear

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION Dated November 19, 2002

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action dated November 19, 2002, for which a timely response is due on or before February 19, 2003. This is a reissue application directed to the invention taught in Applicants' issued U.S. Patent 5, 913,670.

Applicants have previously elected Group 1, claims 1, and 3-7, drawn to a method to reduce injury to whales and other cetaceans. Claim 1 has been indicated as allowable, confirming the scope of claim 1 in the parent application which resulted in the issuance of U.S. Patent Number 5,913,670. Claims 3 and 7 are the independent claims remaining in consideration, and the Examiner has rejected claims 3-7 as being improper recapture.